

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of**

**Hall, David R., et al**

**Serial No.: 10/711,454**

**Filed: Sept. 20, 2004**

**For:Apparatus in a Drill String**

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**Art Group: 3676**

**Examiner: Bates, Zakiya W.**

**Docket No.: 66.0007-2**

January 25, 2007

Honorable Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is timely submitted in response to the Patent and Trademark Office Action mailed December 21, 2006 for which the shortened – statutory period for response is set to expire on March 21, 2007. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.